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New distribution record and an updated map of *Eutropis multifasciata* (Kuhl, 1820) (Squamata, Scincidae) from Dhaka division, Bangladesh

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Abstract
The Many-lined Sun Skink, *Eutropis multifasciata* (Kuhl, 1820), has so far been reported from seven localities in Bangladesh. We present the first record of this species from Faridpur district of the country. Our new record extends the distribution of the species by nearly 123 km from its nearest previously known record at Jahangiragar University, Dhaka district, and updates the distribution of this poorly known species in Bangladesh.

Keywords
Distribution extension, Faridpur, Many-lined Sun Skink.

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Introduction

The genus *Eutropis* Fitzinger, 1843 comprises thirty-three species globally distributed (Uetz et al. 2020). Among these species, four inhabit Bangladesh: *E. carinata* (Schneider, 1801), *E. dissimilis* (Hallowell, 1857), *E. macularia* (Blyth, 1853), and *E. multifasciata* (Kuhl, 1820) (IUCN Bangladesh 2015; Khan 2018). *Eutropis multifasciata* has a distribution that includes South China, India, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Taiwan, Laos, Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia, the Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore, and Indonesia (Fig. 1) (Uetz et al. 2020). In Bangladesh, the species is known to occur in Chittagong, Chittagong Hill Tracts, Sylhet, and presumably in the central and northern regions (Hasan et al. 2014; Khan 2015; Khan 2018). It is terrestrial and mainly feeds on arthropods and small frogs (Khan 2018), but ripe fruits have also been reported in their diet (Meshaka et al. 2004).

Literature records of *Eutropis multifasciata* indicate that the distribution of this species remains poorly known in Bangladesh. To help fill this gap, we provide a new locality record, a list of all known records, and an updated distributional map of the *E. multifasciata* from the country.

Methods

During our field visit on 12 October 2019 in Boalmari, Faridpur district, we observed a specimen of undermined

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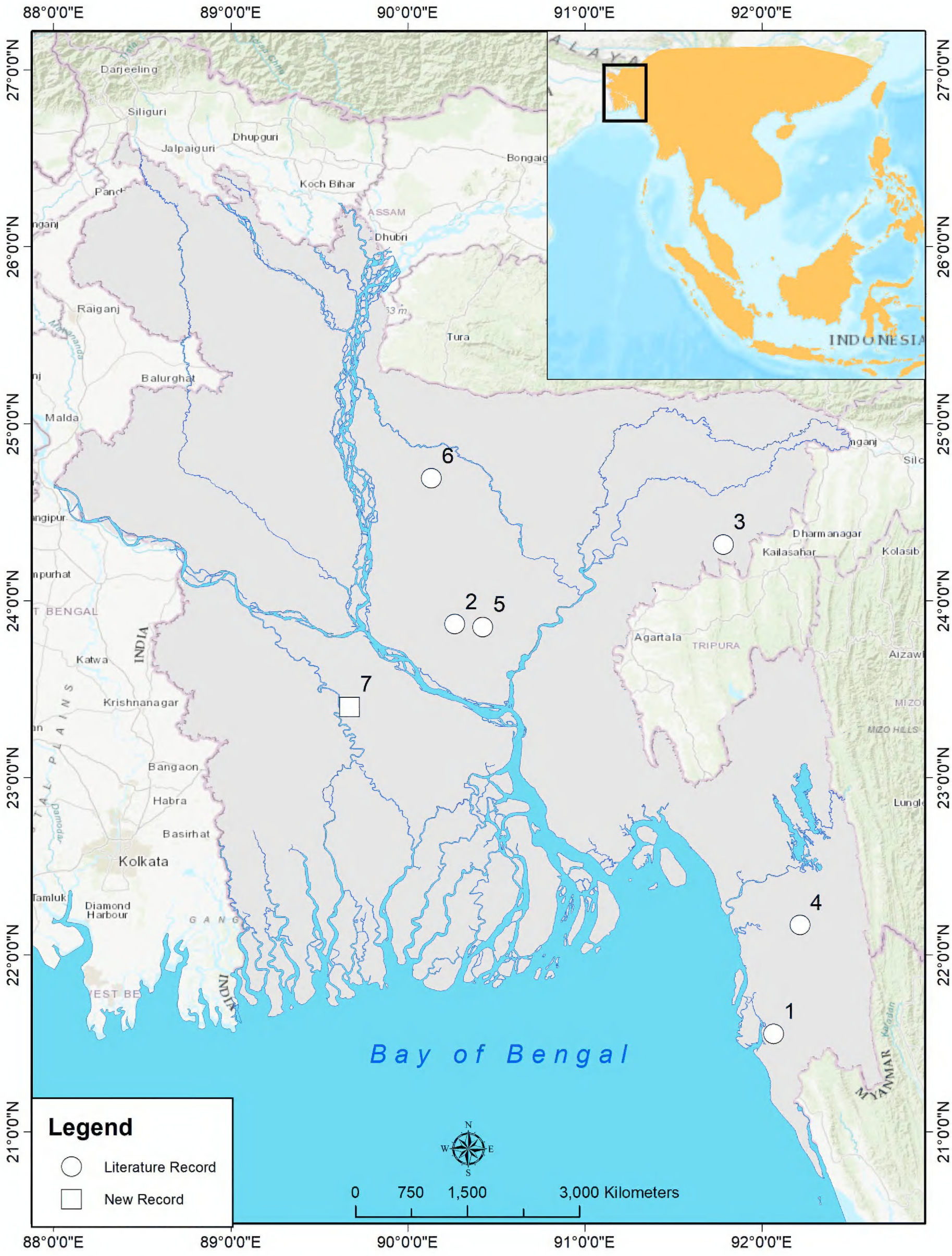

Figure 1. Map showing the distribution of *Eutropis multifasciata* in Bangladesh. The previous localities are marked by white circles and numbered: 1 = Eidgaon, Bomarighona, Cox's Bazar district; 2 = Jahangirnagar University, Dhaka district; 3 = Lawachara National Park, Moulvibazar district; 4 = Milonchari, Bandarban district; 5 = Uttara, Dhaka district; and 6 = Madhupur National Park, Tangail district. The new record is the number 7, marked by a white rectangle. The inset map, orange colored, shows the distribution range of the species in Southeast Asia (according to IUCN).

sex and made a positive identification based on Hasan et al. (2014). The identification was later confirmed by Professor Md. Kamrul Hasan (Department of Zoology, Jahangirnagar University, Savar, Dhaka). We photographed it using a Nikon D5300 DSLR with a 70–300 mm VR lens and deposited the photographic voucher in

Professor Md. Kazi Zaker Husain Museum, Department of Zoology, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh. The specimen was not collected because it is protected under the Bangladesh Wildlife (Conservation and Security) Act (2012).

Results

***Eutropis multifasciata* (Kuhl, 1820)**
Figure 2

New record. BANGLADESH • Dhaka division, Faridpur district, Boalmari; 23.4017°N, 089.6729°E; 12 Oct. 2019; found in a dense grassy and bushy area near human settlements at 14 h; photographed by Arnob Saha; photographic voucher number W25001.

Identification. Preliminary identification was done following Hasan et al. (2014). The specimen matched the color pattern reported for the species by Hasan et al. (2014) and Khan (2018): bronze-brown dorsum with dark brown longitudinal stripes, and prominent whitish spots on sides of body (Fig. 2).

Discussion

Eutropis multifasciata is often found in open forest floor, forest edges, streambeds, and other degraded forested areas (IUCN Bangladesh 2015). Our new record was observed in grassy and bushy areas near human settlements, which differs from most previous records where it has been observed in mixed evergreen hilly forests. Mahony et al. (2009), however, reported the species from grassy habitats of the Jahangirnagar University and paddy fields near human settlements at Uttara.

Eutropis multifasciata was first recorded from Bangladesh in 1994, at the Jahangirnagar University of Dhaka district, and later confirmed in 2004 at the same locality (Mahony et al. 2009). Since the initial discovery, it has been recorded from only seven localities in Bangladesh including our new record. Mahony et al. (2009) recorded *E. multifasciata* from Eidgaon, Cox's Bazar district; Milonchari, Bandarban district; Lawachara National Park, Moulvibazar district; and Uttara, Dhaka district. This species was also recorded from Madhupur National Park, Tangail district (Reza and Perry 2015). Our record is the first from Faridpur district, Dhaka division (Table 1), and is the westernmost record for this species. This new record extends the known geographic distribution of *E. multifasciata* in Bangladesh approximately 123 km southwest from the nearest record in Jahangirnagar University, Dhaka (Fig. 1). We expect that more fieldwork might contribute to finding additional records, especially in the southwestern region of Bangladesh.

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Figure 2. *Eutropis multifasciata* from Boalmari, Faridpur district. Photograph by Arnob Saha.

Table 1. Known locality records for *Eutropis multifasciata* in Bangladesh. Approximate coordinates are indicated by asterisks (*).

Locality no.	Locality	Latitude	Longitude	Habitat	Reference
1	Eidgaon, Bomarighona, Cox's Bazar district	21.55°N*	092.06°E*	Mixed evergreen hilly forests	Mahony et al. 2009
2	Jahangirnagar University, Dhaka district	23.8667°N	090.2667°E	Combination of large tree, grasses, and bushy areas	Mahony et al. 2009
3	Lawachara National Park, Moulvibazar district	24.3167°N	091.7833°E	Mixed evergreen hilly forests	Mahony et al. 2009
4	Milonchari, Bandarban district	22.1667°N	092.2167°E	Mixed evergreen hilly forests	Mahony et al. 2009
5	Uttara, Dhaka district	23.85°N*	090.42°E*	Paddy field near human settlements	Mahony et al. 2009
6	Madhupur National Park, Tangail district	24.6903°N	090.1347°E	Deciduous forest	Reza and Perry 2015
7	Boalmari, Faridpur district	23.4017°N	089.6729°E	Grassy and bushy areas near human settlements	Present study

Authors' Contributions

AS collected the data, MMA and AS wrote the text, MS and MMA made the analysis.

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